

S rial No. 09/421,434
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Please replace claims 1 and 16 with the following claims:

- sub* 1. A method for manufacturing and screening a piezoelectric transformer apparatus including an actuator and a generator, the method comprising the steps of:
DJ beginning manufacturing of the piezoelectric transformer apparatus;
connecting a load impedance to said generator;
applying a stress signal to said actuator to vibrate the piezoelectric transformer apparatus;
identifying whether the transformer apparatus has a mechanical latent defect;
B and
B completing the manufacture of the piezoelectric transformer apparatus after the step of identifying whether the transformer apparatus has the mechanical latent defect.
- sub 16* 16. The method according to Claim 15, further comprising the step of identifying whether the piezoelectric transformer apparatus has the mechanical latent defect after said steps of connecting a load impedance to said generator and applying a stress signal to said actuator to vibrate the piezoelectric transformer apparatus.